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The traveller's Guide to the Rhine exhibiting the course of that river from Schaffhausen to Holland, and describing the Moselle, from Coblentz to Treves

Schreiber, Alois Wilhelm

London, 1834

3. Germersheim to Landau

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2. From SPIRE to GERMERSHEIM, 3 1/2 leagues.

Germersheim is a town containing about 2,000 inhabitants, occupying the site of a Roman fort called the Vicus Julius. It was founded by Rodolph of Habsburg, in 1276, and here he died in 1291. There are still seen vestiges of a castle built by the elector Frederick II. The inhabitants are occupied in agriculture, fishing, and the construction of boats. This town is on the high road of Alsace and Switzerland.

Inns. — The Elephant, and Post-house.

3. From GERMERSHEIM to LANDAU, 4 leagues.

This is one of the most attractive routes on the borders of the Rhine. It passes successively through *Bellheim*, *Knittelsheim*, *Ottersheim*, *Offenbach*, *Merlenheim*, *Queichheim*, to Landau.

LANDAU is a post station, twenty-four leagues from Strasburg, twenty from Mayence, ten from Mannheim. The territory belonging to Landau extends over 3,700 acres, of which the town and fortifications occupy 634. It is situated between two hills, at a little distance from the mountains of the Vosges, and is watered by the river Queich. The foundation of Landau is attributed to Rodolph of Habsburg; and mention is made of it as a town as far back as 1274. The fortifications were begun by Vauban, in 1680; at which time he constructed a canal from the Queich to *Albersweiler*, two leagues above the town, for the purpose of conveying timber and other materials. The town was almost reduced to ashes in 1686; but was rebuilt on an improved plan. It

contains 650 houses, and about 5,700 inhabitants. It has good markets for corn and provisions.

Amongst the public buildings are: 1, the Great Church, from the tower of which there is a good view; 2, the Church and former Convent of the Augustines; 3, the Town-house; 4, the Court of Justice; 5, the four Barracks, one of which is for cavalry; and a civil and military hospital. There are also two vinegar manufactories.

Inns. — The Golden Sheep, and the Swan. There are constant opportunities of travelling to Strasburg. About fourteen or sixteen francs is a fair price.

The tourist should not omit to visit *Bergzabern*, and ascend the mountain, on the top of which are the ruins of the *castle of Eshbach*, commanding a fine view.

EXCURSION to ANNWEILER.

The valley of Annweiler is two leagues from Landau. It is watered by the Queich. The little town has 2,540 inhabitants, including those of the village of *Sarnstall*. It was raised to the rank of a town in 1219. The old *castle of Trifels* is, according to tradition, the place where Richard-Cœur-de-Lion was for a long time confined, previous to being conveyed to Thierstein, on the Danube. In the vicinity are the remains of numerous other castles.

4. From LANDAU to NEUSTADT on the HAARDT.

4 leagues.

Neustadt, the chief place of the canton and a post station, is five leagues from Spire, and six from Kai-